

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 00659 01 OF 02 091608Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 AID-05 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /084 W

-----034725 091635Z /23

O P 081424Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1741
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GABORONE 0659

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV OAU BC RH
SUBJECT: OAU MEETING IN TRIPOLI: MINISTER MOGWE'S IMPRESSIONS

REF: GABORONE 658

1. SUMMARY: EXTAFF MINISTER ARCHIE MOGWE REVIEWED DEVELOP-
MENTS AT NEW YORK PROXIMITY TALKS AND AT OAU MINISTERIAL
MEETING INTRIPOLI IN MEETING WITH UK HICOM, FRG AMBASSADOR
AND MYSELF ON MARCH 7. MOGWE TALKED PRINCIPALLY ABOUT
RHODESIA, BUT ALSO COMMENTED ON NAMIBIA (SEPTTEL) AND OAU
AGENDA ITEMS. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GABORO 00659 01 OF 02 091608Z

2. EXTAFFMIN ARCHIE MOGWE RECEIVED UK HICOM TURNER, FRG
AMBASSADOR SEEGER AND MYSELF FOR 45-MINUTE MEETING ON
SHORT NOTICE MARCH 7. WHILE MEETING WAS REQUESTED TO
COVER OTHER ITEMS REPORTED SEPTELS, MOGWE WAS IN AN
EXPANSIVE MOOD AND REFLECTED FREELY ON NEW YORK PROXIMITY
TALKS ON NAMIBIA AND ON AGENDA ITEMS OF OAU MINISTERIAL

BUDGET SESSION IN LIBYA. MOGWE ONLY RETURNED HERE TWO DAYS EARLIER AND LEAVES MARCH 8 FOR ACP AND EEC MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS. WE REQUESTED JOINT MEETING BOTH TO SPARE MOGWE THREE SEPARATE MEETINGS AND TO ENABLE US TO MAKE JOINT DEMARCHE ON NAMIBIA SUGGESTED REFTEL

3. OAU MEETING. MOGWE SAID THE OAU HAS IN THE PAST BEEN BOTHERED BY LACK OF TIME AND ATTENTION GIVEN BUDGET MATTERS; HENCE THE DECISION TO HAVE A SEPARATE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL BUDGET MEETING. POLITICAL QUESTIONS NEVERTHELESS AROSE AND, IN FACT, DOMINATED THE TRIPOLI MEETING. ONE REASON WAS THE EARLIER MEETING OF OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE WHICH HAD DRAFTED A NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF MINISTERS. MOGWE SAID MOST POLITICAL ITEMS RAISED WERE DEFERRED FOR JUNE OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING: (A) CONDEMNATION OF INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA; (B) LESOTHO'S COMPLAINT ABOUT TRANSKEI/SOUTH AFRICA TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS; (C) MIDDLE EAST; (D) "EXPULSIONS FROM AFRICA" (AN ISSUE RAISED BY SENEGAL); (E) RESOLUTION TO MAKE SEPTEMBER 6TH "STEVE BIKO DAY"; (F) A RESOLUTION ON ROBERT SOBUKWE; AND (G) A STATUS REPORT ON SITUATION IN SAO TOME AND PRINCIPLE. MOGWE NOTED THAT EACH OF ABOVE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT LEAST BRIEFLY BEFORE THE DECISION WAS TAKEN TO REFER THE SUBJECT TO THE JUNE MEETING IN KHARTOUM. FOLLOWING ARE BRIEF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GABORO 00659 01 OF 02 091608Z

HIGHLIGHTS AND BACKGROUND OF THESE DISCUSSIONS.

4. RHODESIA: GOB VIEWS. ON INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, MOGWE SAID EXTENDED DISCUSSION CENTERED ON WHETHER TO ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE TO SPEAK. A "HALF DOZEN" COUNTRIES TOOK THE VIEW THAT THEY SHOULD BE HEARD. MOST OPPOSED. THE UNDERLYING QUESTION WAS WHETHER PREVIOUS OAU RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PATRIOTIC FRONT (PF) SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS PROHIBITING NON-PF SPOKESMEN TO BE HEARD. THIS DEBATE WAS RESOLVED BY NIGERIAN REP WHO DEPLORED THE WASTE OF TIME SAYING INTERPRETATION SHOULD BE LEFT TO MINISTERS AT JUNE MEETING. UNFORTUNATELY, MOGWE ADDED, PRESS LEARNED OF THIS DEBATE AND REPORTED IT, NOT AS QUESTION OF WHETHER MUZOREWA/SITHOLE REPS SHOULD SPEAK, BUT RATHER WHETHER INTERNAL TALKS SHOULD BE CONDEMNED. MOGWE BLUNTLY TOLD HICOM TURNER THAT BBC HAD BEEN WRONG. AS FOR HIS OWN VIEWS, MOGWE SAID IF HE HAD SPOKEN (I.E., IF DEBATE HAD NOT BEEN CUT OFF) HE WOULD HAVE SAID MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK. HIS REASON WAS THAT THEY ASKED TO SPEAK AS LEADER OF NATIONALIST FACTION OR ONE POINT OF

VIEW, NOT AS SPOKESMAN FOR A GROUP OR MOVEMENT.
WHEN EITHER NKOMO OR MUGABE SPEAKS, DESPITE THEIR
INTERNAL DIVISIONS, THEY SPEAK FOR THE PF. IF
MUZOREWA OR SITHOLE HAD WISHED TO OUTLINE THE TERMS
OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, THEIR REQUEST TO SPEAK
WOULD HAVE BEEN EQUALLY INAPPROPRIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 00659 02 OF 02 081623Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 AID-05 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /094 W

-----018425 091636Z /23

O P 081424Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1742
INDO RUFHBS/AMDMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 0073
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMYMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY 0216
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GABORONE 0659

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

5. UK HICOM VIEWS. MOGWE THEN ASKED HOW WE SEE THE SITUATION
IN RHODESIA. HICOM TURNER, WHO HAD BEEN UNABLE TO USE HIS TALKING
POINTS WHICH HE STILL CONSIDERED VALID (GABORONE 0612), AND
IS CLEARLY NOT REPEAT NOT RECEIVING INFO ON WHAT IS GOIN ON
IN THE UK, SPOKE UP QUICKLY TO SAY HE FELT FONSEC OWEN
COULD "ACCEPT EVERYTHING" MOGWE HAD SAID, I.E., THAT AAP
IS STILL ALIVE, THAT PF HAS MADE THE SITUATION DIFFICULT BY
REFUSING TO ACCEPT ESSENTIAL ASPECTS OF AAP, THAT PF MUST
BE INVOLVED, THAT SMITH MUST GO. MOGWE ACKNOWLEDGE PF POSITION
REMAINS "EXTREME" IN STATING THAT UK SHOULD NEGOTIATE EXCLUSIVELY
WITH THEM. MOGWE THEN WENT ON TO INTERPRET SMITH'S ACTIONS

AS ROOTED IN STRONG ANTI-UK SENTIMENT. MOGWE THOUGHT BLACK
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GABORO 00659 02 OF 02 081623Z POSS DUPE

NATIONALISTS IN RHODESIA (I.E., MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE AND THEIR FOLLOWERS) WERE PRO-UK. SMITH SEEKS INTERNAL SOLUTION JUST AS SAG WANTED TURNHALLE IN NAMIBIA. BUT TURNHALLE WAS STOPPED BY UN, WESTERN AND AFRICAN DETERMINATION WHICH MADE SAG REALIZE IT WAS INCOMPATIBLE WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. "YOU MUST GET SMITH TO SEE THE LIGHT", MOGWE TOLD TURNER. HE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT HIS INTERNAL SOLUTION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE ANYMORE THAN TURNHALLE WOULD HAVE BEEN. IF SMITH HAS THE WELFARE OF RHODESIA AT HEART, WHY CAN HE NOT BE LED TO TAKE THE SAME POSITION AS THE SAG ON TURNHALLE? UNTIL THEN, MOGWE SAID, THE SITUATION WOULD REMAIN "DEADLOCKED". IN FURTHER DISCUSSION, TURNER AND MOGWE AGREED THAT TERMS OF INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WERE UNACCEPTABLE, E.G., 28 PERCENT OF PARLIAMENT SEATS RESERVED FOR THREE PERCENT OF THE POPULATION, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO BE COMPOSED OF "SIX WHITES AND SIX AFRICANS", WITH SMITH IN LEADING ROLE. MOGWE DISCOUNTED CHIRAU AS NOTHING MORE THAN "SMITH'S MAN" WHICH GIVES SMITH EQUALITY. MOGWE CONCLUDED BY STATING: "WHAT SMITH IS DOING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO ANYBODY."

6. OAU AGENDA. ON OTHER OAU ITEMS DISCUSSED BUT POSTPONED FOR DECISION UNTIL JUNE, MOGWE COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) MID-EAST: ANTI-SADAT SENTIMENT WAS STRONG BUT THE SHARPEST ATTACK THAT COULD WIN APPROVAL WAS TO DESCRIBE PLO AS "SOLE LEGITIMATE SPOKESMAN" OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE THIS WAS UNDERSTOOD AS "SLAP AT SADAT";

(B) BIKO AND SOBUKWE RESOLUTIONS: THE MEETING POSTPONED DECISIONS ON GROUNDS THERE WERE BECOMING TOO MANY "HEROES DAYS". THESE DAYS SHOULD BE CONSOLIDATED INTO ONE;

(C) SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE: MOGWE NOTED BOTSWANA HAD BEEN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GABORO 00659 02 OF 02 081623Z POSS DUPE

SELECTED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION ON THE PROBLEM OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE. MOGWE CONFIDED HE WAS NOT SURE WHAT THE PROBLEMS WERE OR HOW TO GET THERE;

(D) THE HORN: THIS SUBJECT WAS OFFICIALLY AVOIDED ALTHOUGH MUCH-DISCUSSED IN THE CORRIDORS. MOGWE SAID HE HAD "YET TO MEET ANYONE" WHO TOOK THE SIDE OF SOMALIA. HE DESCRIBED IT AS "ISOLATED DIPLOMATICALLY";

(D) COLONEL QADHAFI: HIS OPENING SPEECH INSULTED OR ANTAGONIZED MOST DELEGATES IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, E.G., BY LABELING CHRISTIANS AS "EARLY IMPERIALISTS", THE FRENCH AND THE BRITISH AS "LATTER DAY LINGUISTIC IMPERIALISTS" WHO FORCED THEIR LANGUAGES ON AFRICAN PEOPLES, ETC. MOGWE FOUND HIM AMUSING AND SLIGHTLY RIDICULOUS.

7. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS DESIRED.
NORLAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GABORO00659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780106-0569
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780394/aaaadbmq.tel
Line Count: 234
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e9ce97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GABORONE 658
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3407946
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAU MEETING IN TRIPOLI: MINISTER MOGWE'S IMPRESSIONS
TAGS: PDEV, BC, RH, OAU, (MOGWE, ARCHIE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e9ce97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014